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July 29, 2003

CONTINUING THE PRACTICE OF  
GEORGE H. RICHES AND ASSOCIATES  
ESTABLISHED 1887

## MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION / FEE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

U.S.A.

Re: New U.S. Patent Application  
Our Case: P41803

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor(s): Heiner OPHARDT and Tony KORTLEVE-SNIDER

Title: Metering Ball-Valve With Biased Housing

Enclosed are:

1. A specification having 19 pages including drawings of Figs. 1 to 7 on seven sheets.
2. A Declaration having two pages.
3. Assignment papers including Recordal Cover Sheet and Assignment (3 pages).
4. Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b).
5. Power of Attorney (1 page).
6. An Information Disclosure Statement and IDS Citation (2 pages) and copies of seven references.
7. Priority is hereby claimed from Canadian patent application Serial No. (not yet known), filed 06/25/2003, a certified copy of which will follow shortly.

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15915 U.S. PTO  
07/30/03

Government fees are submitted in the amount of US \$415.00 on the basis the applicant is a small entity representing:

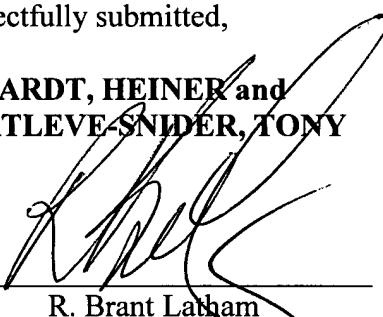
<b>Fee Code</b>	<b>37 CFR</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Small Entity Fee</b>
2001	1.16(a)	Basic Filing Fee – Utility	\$375.00
8021	1.21(h)	Patent Assignment Recordal Fee	\$ 40.00

No additional claims fees are payable in that the total claims are less than twenty, no more than three independent claims are on file and there are no multiple dependent claims.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing or subsequent fees which may be required, (other than the Issue Fee) or credit any overpayment to our Account No. 18-1350.

Respectfully submitted,

**OPHARDT, HEINER and  
KORTLEVE-SNIIDER, TONY**

By: 

R. Brant Latham  
Reg. No. 30,013

BL:so  
Encls.  
As listed above  
Ret. Ack. Card